

School Readiness Study: Full-Day Kindergarten Up, Pre-K Very Low

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HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) A new report says more than half of Pennsylvania's public-school kindergartners spend a full day in school, but only three percent of the state's three- and four-year-olds attend pre-kindergarten classes in public schools.

The statistics are among 14 school-readiness indicators being monitored by Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children.

The nonprofit group has released its first report on school readiness and plans annually to update the numbers, which are based on state government statistics and US census data.

Organization President Joan Benso says it's in the state's best interest to make sure children enter school ready to learn.

Other indicators measured in the report include the number of children living in low-income families, the number of children without health insurance, and the percentage of children who receive high-quality child care.